Flow of PDS foodgrains to tribal blocks

1210. SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the flow of PDS foodgrains to tribal block are very poor; and

(b) if so, the quantum of foodgrains distributed against per card per month to tribal blocks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The Central Government make allocation of subsidized foodgrains to States and UTs under TPDS for all BPL (including AAY) families at Central Issue Prices (CIPs) on the basis of number of ration cards issued by States/UTs or the number of households on the basis of poverty estimates of the Planning Commission for 1993-94 and the population projection of Registrar General of India as on 1st March, 2000, whichever is less. The allocations of foodgrains to States/UTs for BPL (including AAY) families are being made @ 35 kg. per family per month in tribal as well as non-tribal blocks.

Storage agents/dealers in Orissa

1211. SHRI BHAGIRATHI MAJHI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of storage agents/dealers appointed for smooth distribution of civil supplies goods under PDS in Orissa till presently;

(b) the total number of people belonging to S.T. and S.C. categories appointed as such agents in Orissa, district-wise;

(c) whether there are quotas for such agents for S.T. and S.C. categories which are fulfilled as per Government policy;

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether there are any plans in future to provide more agencies especially for S.T. and S.C. categories; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): As reported by Government of Orissa, 673 private storage agents have been appointed by the Orissa State Civil Supplies Corporation for transportation of PDS foodgrains from Food Storage Depots, their storage and sale to retailers on behalf of the Orissa State Civil Supplies Corporation.

(b) 7 (5 SC and 2 ST).

(c) No quota has been fixed in the appointment of Storage Agents for SC and ST categories.

(d) The appointment of Storage Agent is location specific and there is no policy of quota of SC/ST at present.

(e) and (f) In the guidelines for the appointment of Storage Agents for the year 2007 and